

## John Randolph to Andrew Jackson, December 6, 1832, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

### JOHN RANDOLPH TO JACKSON.

Charlotte Court House, December 6, 1832.

*My dear Sir*, I have been confined here ever since our Election—more than a month ago. I came down to add my mite to the Republican Vote not knowing what Freak the White Ba—[ *illegible* ] Folks of our Western Counties might take into their Heads: knowing too that they were great Admirers of the American System and some of them also of it's great architect and Supporter. I have been most agreeably disappointed in the Temper of Virginia which ought surely to be inferred from the composition and Character of her Assembly—strange as that may seem.

As you are now in a situation to recede with d[ignity] I speak the Language of many of your staunchest friends [when] I express the hope that you will give to our Sister S.C. amp[le] time for consideration; and I trust that the relation in which she will find herself standing towards her Co-States may lead to the happiest and most peaceful results.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Writing to Jackson on Dec. 4, 1832, Randolph said of Calhoun, "It is even doubted by some of their leaders [ *i. e.*, the nullifiers] whether he will support them in the course which they have adopted."

I fear that I have been remiss in forgetting a promise that I made to a quondam Protégé of yours Mr Isham Randolph who would be glad to find a haven in his old age in some suitable place in the Custom House or Post office at Richmond or some appointment at Washington for which his honest zeal has fitted him. May I ask the favour of a single line

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on this subject as Mr R. is at present in a situation under the James River Company not suited to his Infirmities.

Some of my friends are very desirous to see me again in Congress as it is understood that the V.P. will take Hayne's place, this session in the Senate, where he can co-operate with the Godlike man of the East and the great orator of the West<sup>2</sup> to farther their respective views; which at this moment are nearly confined to the petty Revenge of thwarting the measures of the Administration. It will not be the fault of my friend Ritchie however if I shall receive that or any other mark of my Country's Approbation. He can't forget his old friend Wilkinson nor the drubbings that I gave them both, some five and twenty years ago. By the way I feel a strong desire to see Burr and if ever I get as far as New York, I shall make it a point to find him out and ask an Interview. He and the Chief Justice and one other know more of the History of this Government from the Funeral Pile of the old Congress down to the late war than all the rest of the U. S. put together; and it is desirable that their evidence should not perish with them, but that it should be perpetuated.

2 Webster and Clay.

It is greatly desired by many of your best friends in Virginia that no final step may be taken by you during the present session of Congress in regard to the Cabinet or the Foreign Missions. I believe I know the temper of the State as well as any man in it. Many who make a great noise in our Newspapers either never possessed or have lost the publick confidence. The very names of some of them excite ridicule. Pray excuse this impertinence from, Dear Sir, your sincere and faithful friend and Servant